

FORM PTO 1390 (REV. 9-2001)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER ATM-2241	
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371				U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known see 37 CFR 4.5) 09/926580	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP00/04330		INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE May 13, 2000		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED June 2, 1999	
TITLE OF INVENTION CHILD-RESISTANT PACKAGING FOR TABLETS					
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Peter KANCSAR et al.					
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information					
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau) b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4) 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made, however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). (unexecuted) 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included: 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment 14. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: International Search Report in German with English language translation Notification of Receipt of Record Copy, International Preliminary Examination Report in German, PCT Antrag					

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known) 09/926580		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO PCT/EP00/04330		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER ATM-2241	
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)): Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1040.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$890.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$740.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$710.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00 ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin: 2px;">\$ 890.00</div>	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$	
Total claims	28 - 20 =	8	x \$18.00	\$ 144.00	
Independent claims	- 3 =		x \$84.00	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$280.00	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 1,134.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status See 37 CFR 1.27 The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2				\$	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 1,134.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f))				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 1,134.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)) The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +				\$	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 1,134.00	
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				charged:	\$
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>1,134.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No <u>06-1110</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO Fisher Christen & Sabol Suite 1401 1725 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006					
				<u>Virgil H. Marsh</u> SIGNATURE <u>Virgil H. Marsh</u> NAME <u>Reg. No. 23,083</u> REGISTRATION NUMBER	

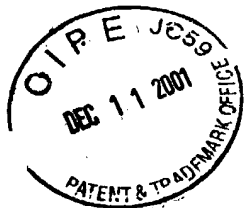
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U.S. PATENT NUMBER (if known, see 37 CFR 1.101) 09/926580		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO PCT/EP00/04330		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER ATM-2241	
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Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$	
Total claims	28 - 20 =	8	x \$18.00	\$ 144.00	
Independent claims	- 3 =		x \$84.00	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$280.00	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 1,134.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.				+	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 1,134.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 1,134.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3 31). \$40.00 per property +				\$	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 1,134.00	
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				charged:	\$
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>1,134.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>06-1110</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: Fisher Christen & Sabol Suite 1401 1725 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006			<u>Virgil H. Marsh</u> SIGNATURE <u>Virgil H. Marsh</u> NAME <u>Reg. No. 23,083</u> REGISTRATION NUMBER		



09/926,580 .060302

JC10 Rec'd PCT/PTO 11 DEC 2001

PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Docket: ATM-2241

#7/B

Applicant : Peter KANCSAR et al.
Serial No. : 09/926,580
Filed : November 21, 2001
Mark : CHILD-RESISTANT PACKAGING FOR TABLETS

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Specification:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121, please substitute for the original first paragraph on page 1 the following rewritten version of the first paragraph on page 1, as amended, insert the following new paragraph on page 24, line 24 (i.e., between lines 23 and 24), substitute for the original sixth paragraph on page 1 the following rewritten version of the sixth paragraph on page 1, as amended, substitute for the original seventh paragraph on page 1 the following rewritten version of the seventh paragraph on page 1, as amended, substitute for the original first full paragraph on page 2 the following rewritten version of the first full paragraph on page 2, as amended, and insert the abstract of the disclosure

submitted herewith on a separate page. The changes made are shown explicitly in the attached "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made".

Please cancel the original first paragraph on page 1 and substitute therefor the rewritten first paragraph on page 1, as follows:

The invention concerns a child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack with at least one cup to hold the tablets or capsules sealed by means of a push-through cover film, in which packing the blister pack is arranged between a base part and a cover part of an outer pack, the cover film of the blister pack facing towards the base part, the base part having a removal opening and the cup of the blister pack is movable and guided in an opening slot in the cover part and can be brought over the removal opening in the base part to push through the cover film and remove the tablets.

Please insert the new paragraph on page 1, line 24 (i.e., between lines 23 and 25), as follows:

U.S. Patent No. 5,150,793 discloses child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack with at least one cup to hold the tablets sealed by means of a push-through cover film, in which packing the blister pack is arranged between a base part and a cover part of an outer pack, the cover film of the blister pack facing towards the base part, the base part having a removal opening and the cup of the blister pack is movable and guided in an opening slot in the cover part and can be brought over the

removal opening in the base part to push through the cover film and remove the tablets.

Please cancel the original sixth paragraph on page 1 and insert therefor the rewritten sixth paragraph on page 1, as follows:

The invention is based on the task of creating a child-safe packing of the type described initially which can easily be opened by the elderly. Essentially, the packing is structured such that its opening requires a combination skill, or simultaneous or complex movements must be performed.

Please cancel the original seventh paragraph on page 1 and insert therefor the rewritten seventh paragraph on page 1, as follows:

The task according to the invention is solved by child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack with at least one cup to hold the tablets sealed by means of a push-through cover film, in which packing the blister pack is arranged between a base part and a cover part of an outer pack, the cover film of the blister pack facing towards the base part, the base part having a removal opening and the cup of the blister pack is movable and guided in an opening slot in the cover part and can be brought over the removal opening in the base part to push through the cover film and remove the tablets, the opening slot has a width (t) which is less than the diameter (s) of a shoulder of the cup but greater than the diameter (u) of the cup, and in that a tear-off strip which at least partly covers the opening slot and is separable by way of a weakening line is connected to the cover part.

Please cancel the original first full paragraph on page 2 and insert therefor the rewritten first full paragraph has been substituted therefor on page 1, as follows:

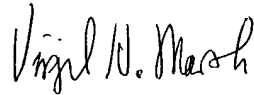
Preferably the tear-off strip at least partly covering the opening slot is connected with the cover part by way of a perforation line.

Please amend the application to insert the abstract of the disclosure that is submitted herewith on the attached sheet.

REMARKS

The first, sixth and seventh paragraphs on page 1 have been rewritten. A new paragraph has been inserted on page 1, line 24. The first full paragraph on page 2 has been rewritten. An abstract of the disclosure has been supplied.

Respectfully submitted,

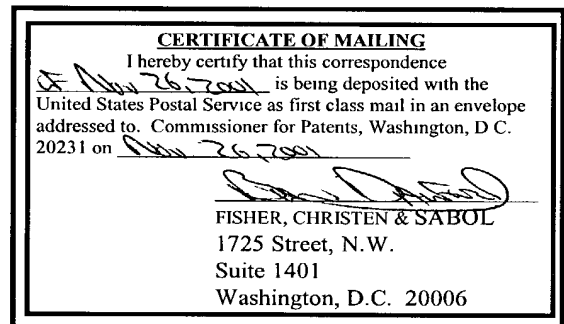


Virgil H. Marsh
Registration No. 23,083

Date: Nov. 26, 2001

Fisher, Christen & Sabol
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Washington, D.C. 20006

Telephone: 202) 659-2000
Fascimile: 202) 659-2015



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The original first paragraph on page 1 has been cancelled, and the rewritten first paragraph has been substituted therefor on page 1, as follows:

The invention concerns a child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack with at least one cup to hold the tablets or capsules sealed by means of a push-through cover film, in which packing the blister pack is arranged between a base part and a cover part of an outer pack, the cover film of the blister pack facing towards the base part, the base part having a removal opening and the cup of the blister pack is movable and guided in an opening slot in the cover part and can be brought over the removal opening in the base part through the cover film and remove the tablets.

The new paragraph has been inserted on page 1, line 24 (i.e., between lines 23 and 25), as follows:

U.S. Patent No.5,150,793 discloses child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack with at least one cup to hold the tablets sealed by means of a push-through cover film, in which packing the blister pack is arranged between a base part and a cover part of an outer pack, the cover film of the blister pack facing towards the base part, the base part having a removal opening and the cup of the blister pack is movable and guided in an opening slot in the cover part and can be brought over the removal opening in the base part to push through the cover film and remove the tablets.

The original sixth paragraph on page 1 has been cancelled and the rewritten sixth paragraph has been substituted therefor on page 1, as follows:

The invention is [therefore] based on the task of creating a child-safe packing of the type described initially which can easily be opened by the elderly. Essentially, the packing is structured such that its opening requires a combination skill, or simultaneous or complex movements must be performed.

The original seventh paragraph on page 1 has been cancelled and the rewritten seventh paragraph has been substituted therefor on page 1, as follows:

The task according to the invention is solved [in that the blister pack is arranged in an outer pack between a base part and a cover part, where the cover film of the blister pack faces towards the base part and the base part has a removal opening optionally covered by a push-through opening seal, and in that the cup of the blister pack is movable and guided in an opening slot in the cover part and can be brought over the removal opening in the base part to push through the cover film and remove the tablets] by child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack with at least one cup to hold the tablets sealed by means of a push-through cover film, in which packing the blister pack is arranged between a base part and a cover part of an outer pack, the cover film of the blister pack facing towards the base part, the base part having a removal opening and the cup of the blister pack is movable and guided in an opening slot in the cover part and can be brought over the removal opening in the base part to push through the cover film and remove the tablets, the opening slot has a width (t) which is less than the diameter (s) of a

shoulder of the cup but greater than the diameter (u) of the cup, and in that a tear-off strip which at least partly covers the opening slot and is separable by way of a weakening line is connected to the cover part.

The original first full paragraph on page 2 has been cancelled and the rewritten first full paragraph has been substituted therefor on page 1, as follows:

Preferably [, a] the tear-off strip at least partly covering the opening slot [and separable by way of a weakening line, preferably a perforation line,] is connected with the cover part by way of a perforation line.

An abstract of the disclosure has been supplied on a separate page.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A child-resistant yet senior-friendly packaging for tablets, capsules or similar pharmaceutical products. The packaging is a blister pack (12) with at least one cup (22) that receives tablets (18) in an external package, arranged between a base part (14) and a cover part (16), and that is closed by a cover film (24) that can be pressed through. The cover film (24) of the blister pack (12) is directed towards the base part (14) and the base part (14) comprises an opening (38) through which the product can be withdrawn. The cup (22) of the blister pack (12) is displaceably guided in a slot (30) in the cover part (16) and can be brought in alignment with the opening (38) in the base part (14) so that the cover film (24) can be pressed through and the tablet (18) can be withdrawn. A tear tab (32) is detachably linked with the cover part (16) via a perforated line (36) and covers the slot (30) at least partially.

09/926580

#4/a

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket: ATM-2241

Applicant : Peter KANCSAR et al.
 Serial No. : (National Stage of PCT/EP00/04330, filed May 13, 2000)
 Filed : November 21, 2001
 Mark : CHILD-RESISTANT PACKAGING FOR TABLETS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Specification:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121, please insert the following priority history paragraph on page 1 between the title and the first line. The changes made are shown explicitly in the attached "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made".

Please insert the following priority history paragraph on page 1 between the title and the first line:

This is a 371 of International Application No. PCT/EP00/04330, filed on May 13, 2000, that has benefit of European Patent Application No. 99810480.6, filed on June 2, 1999.

In the Claims:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121, please cancel original Claims 1 to 8 and insert new Claims 9 to 36 as follows. The changes made are shown explicitly in the attached "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made".

Please cancel original Claims 1 to 8.

Please insert new Claims 9 to 36, as follows:

9. A child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack (12) with at least one cup (22) to hold the tablets (18) sealed by means of a push-through cover film (24), in which packing the blister pack (12) is arranged between a base part (14) and a cover part (16) of an outer pack (10), the cover film (24) of the blister pack (12) facing towards the base part (14), the base part (14) having a removal opening (38) and the cup (22) of the blister pack (12) is movable and guided in an opening slot (30) in the cover part (16) and can be brought over the removal opening (38) in the base part (14) to push through the cover film (24) and remove the tablets (18), the opening slot (30) has a width (t) which is less than the diameter (s) of a shoulder (26) of the cup (22) but greater than the diameter (u) of the cup (22), and in that a tear-off strip (32) which at least partly covers the opening slot (30) and is separable by way of a weakening line (36) that is connected to the cover part (16).

10. The packing according to Claim 9, wherein the weakening line (36) is a perforation line.

11. The packing according to Claim 9, wherein the removal opening (38) is covered by a push-through opening seal.

12. The packing according to Claim 10, wherein the removal opening (38) is covered by a push-through opening seal.

13. The packing according to Claim 9, wherein projections (42) protrude inward from the edge of the opening slot (30), thereby inhibiting the free movement of the cup (22).

14. The packing according to Claim 10, wherein projections (42) protrude inward from the edge of the opening slot (30), thereby inhibiting the free movement of the cup (22).

15. The packing according to Claim 11, wherein projections (42) protrude inward from the edge of the opening slot (30), thereby inhibiting the free movement of the cup (22).

16. The packing according to Claim 9, wherein the blister pack (12) is connected to a spring element (28), thereby counteracting the sliding movement.

17. The packing according to Claim 16, wherein the spring element (28) is part of the blister pack (12).

18. The packing according to Claim 10, wherein the blister pack (12) is connected to a spring element (28), thereby counteracting the sliding movement.

19. The packing according to Claim 18, wherein the spring element (28) is part of the blister pack (12).

20. The packing according to Claim 11, wherein the blister pack (12) is connected to a spring element (28), thereby counteracting the sliding movement.

21. The packing according to Claim 20, wherein the spring element (28) is part of the blister pack (12).

22. The packing according to Claim 13, wherein the blister pack (12) is connected to a spring element (28), thereby counteracting the sliding movement.

23. The packing according to Claim 22, wherein the spring element (28) is part of the blister pack (12).

24. The packing according to Claim 9, wherein the outer pack (10) has a single cut.

25. The packing according to Claim 10, wherein the outer pack (10) has a single cut.

26. The packing according to Claim 11, wherein the outer pack (10) has a single cut.

27. The packing according to Claim 13, wherein the outer pack (10) has a single cut.

28. The packing according to Claim 16, wherein the outer pack (10) has a single cut.

29. A double packing that comprises two part packings according to Claim 9 arranged mirror symmetrically to each other.

30. A double packing that comprises two part packings according to Claim 10 arranged mirror symmetrically to each other.

31. A double packing that comprises two part packings according to Claim 15 arranged mirror symmetrically to each other.

32. A double packing that comprises two part packings according to Claim 28 arranged mirror symmetrically to each other.

33. A multi-portion pack of at least two packings according to Claim 9, wherein the individual packings are arranged next to each other into a strip pack (70).

34. A multi-portion pack of at least two packings according to Claim 9, wherein the individual packings are arranged next to each other into a strip pack (70) and are separable from the strip pack (70) along a weakening line.

35. A multi-portion pack of at least two packings according to Claim 9, wherein the individual packings are arranged next to each other into a strip pack (70) and are separable from the strip pack (70) along a perforation line (72).

36. A multi-portion pack of at least two packings according to Claim 32, wherein the individual packings are arranged next to each other into a strip pack (70) and are separable from the strip pack (70) along a perforation line (72).

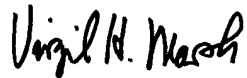
Peter KANCSAR et al.
ATM-2241
Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Please enter this preliminary amendment before calculating the filing fee. The claims have been amended to eliminate the multiple claim dependency.

The priority history paragraph has been inserted on page 1. Original Claims 1 to 8 have been canceled. New Claims 9 to 36 have been inserted.

Respectfully submitted,



Virgil H. Marsh
Registration No. 23,083

Date: Nov. 21, 2001

FISHER, CHRISTEN & SABOL
1725 K Street, N.W.
Suite 1401
Washington, D.C. 20006
Telephone: 202/659-2000
Facsimile: 202/659-2015

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

The following priority history paragraph has been inserted on page 1 between the title and the first line:

This is a 371 of International Application No. PCT/EP00/04330, filed on May 13, 2000, that has benefit of European Patent Application No. 99810480.6, filed on June 2, 1999.

In the Claims:

Original Claims 1 to 8 have been canceled.

New Claims 9 to 36 have been inserted.

Child-Resistant Packaging for Tablets

5 The invention concerns a child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack with at least one cup to hold the tablets or capsules sealed by a push-through cover film.

10 The danger of unsupervised consumption of drugs is undisputed, where in particular small children are greatly exposed to this potential risk especially when drugs are left lying around.

15 Blister packs have become the predominant form of packaging for tablets and capsules. Push-through packs, in which the tablets are pushed through a cover film from a cup in the base of the packing, have become very common. In other known blister packs a cover film is removed by peeling. Other blister packs have a notch as a tear aid.

20 The possibilities exploited today for increasing the child-safety of the said blister packs for tablets and capsules consist of rendering opening more difficult by measures which require increased force, e.g. thicker push-through films, stronger adhesion of peel films or high tear resistance at tear notches.

Packs which can only be opened with increased use of force are indeed child-safe but can constitute a problem for the elderly.

25 The invention is therefore based on the task of creating a child-safe packing of the type described initially which can easily be opened by the elderly. Essentially, the packing is structured such that its opening requires a combination skill, or simultaneous or complex movements must be performed.

30 The task according to the invention is solved in that the blister pack is arranged in an outer pack between a base part and a cover part, where the cover film of the blister pack faces towards the base part and the base part has a removal opening optionally covered by a push-through opening seal, and in that the cup of the blister pack is movable and guided in an opening slot in the cover part and can be
35 brought over the removal opening in the base part to push through the cover film and remove the tablets.

Opening the packing according to the invention requires a combination ability in

the sense that it must be perceived that to press the tablets through, the cup must be brought over the removal opening.

5 Preferably, a tear-off strip at least partly covering the opening slot and separable by way of a weakening line, preferably a perforation line, is connected with the cover part.

10 In a suitable design of the packing according to the invention, projections protrude inwards from the edge of the opening slot inhibiting the free movement of the cup.

Advantageously, the blister pack is connected with a spring element countering the sliding movement. Preferably, this spring element is part of the blister pack.

15 In a particularly low cost production variant the outer pack consists of a single cut-out.

A double pack can be produced in a simple manner from two symmetrically arranged mirror part packings.

20 At least two packings can be combined into multi-portion packs, where the individual packings are arranged next to each other in a strip pack and preferably can be separated from the strip pack along a weakening line, preferably a perforation line.

25 For production of the packing according to the invention, rigid, semi-rigid and flexible materials known today for the production of packing, in the form of sheets, films, laminates or other layer materials in a thickness from a few mm to a few mm, preferably 8 mm to 3 mm, can be used. Examples of film-like materials are metal foils such as for example aluminium foil. Other examples of film-like
30 materials are paper, semi-cardboard and cardboard. Particularly important are plastic-containing films e.g. those based on polyolefins such as polyethylenes or polypropylenes, polyamides, polyvinyl chloride, polyesters such as polyalkylene terephthalates and in particular polyethylene terephthalate. The plastic-containing films can be monofilms of plastics, laminates of two or more plastic films,
35 laminates of metal and plastic films, laminates of papers and plastic films or laminates of paper and metal and plastic films. The individual layers of the film-like materials can be attached to each other by means of adhesives, pastes, adhesive promotion agents and/or by extrusion coating, co-extrusion or laminating

etc. Suitable plastic films are for example non-oriented or axially or biaxially oriented monofilms or laminates of two or more non-oriented or axially or biaxially oriented films of plastics based on polyolefins such as polyethylenes or polypropylenes, polyamides, polyvinyl chloride, polyesters such as polyalkylene terephthalates and in particular polyethylene terephthalate, cyclo-olefin-copolymers (CO) and polychloro-trifluoroethylene (PCTFE, trademark ACLAR).

Particularly suitable for the base parts of blister packs are transparent plastics with good moulding properties such as polyethylene, polypropylene, cyclo-olefin-copolymers (COC), polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene terephthalate, polyamide and laminates made from the said materials e.g. PVC and polychloro-trifluoroethylene (PCTFE) or PVC and PVDC (polyvinylidichloride). For non-transparent blister packs for example laminates are used of an aluminium film coated on both sides with a plastic film with for example the structure polyamide/aluminium/PVC or pigmented plastic films. The cover film is usually an aluminium film of for example a thickness of 20 mm which can be painted and/or coated with a hot seal lacquer.

All the above film-like materials such as paper, semi-cardboard, cardboard and plastic films in the form of monofilms, laminates etc. can have at least one further continuous layer of ceramic materials sputtered or deposited from a vacuum in a thickness of approximately 5 to 500 nm (nanometers) for example Al_2O_3 or SiO_x , where x is a Figure between 1.5 and 2. These layers of ceramic materials have barrier properties and prevent the diffusion of gases and water vapours through the packing.

Further advantages, features and details of the invention arise from the description of preferred embodiments below and the drawings; these show diagrammatically

- Fig. 1 a longitudinal section through a blister pack with outer pack;
- Fig. 2 a top view onto the outer pack of Fig. 1 in direction y;
- Fig. 3 a top view onto the opened outer pack of Fig. 1 in direction y;
- Fig. 4 a longitudinal section through the blister pack with opened outer pack of Fig. 3 in the removal position;
- Fig. 5 a top view onto a cut-out for production of the outer pack in Fig. 1;

- Fig. 6 a top view onto a blister pack with integral spring element;
- Fig. 7 a top view onto the blister pack of Fig. 6 with spring elements under tension;
- Fig. 8 a longitudinal section through a blister pack structured according to Fig. 1 with outer pack as a double packing;
- Fig. 9 a top view onto a blister pack with outer pack in Fig. 1 structured as a multi-portion pack.

An outer pack 10 shown in Figs. 1 to 4, of for example cardboard for a blister pack 12 of essentially strip-like structure, has a base part 14 and a cover part 16. The blister pack 12 - in the example shown a single portion pack for a tablet 18 - has a base part 20 of for example polyvinyl chloride (PVC) with a cup 22 moulded from this to hold the tablet 18, and a cover film 24 of for example aluminium sealed or glued to a base part 20. The base part 20 of the blister pack 12 in the area of the cup 22 forms a peripheral shoulder 26 with a diameter s and is connected as one piece with a spring strip 28.

The cover part 16 of the outer pack 10 is formed as one piece with the base part 14 and with this forms a loop where the cover part 16 and base part 14 lie opposite each other, approximately parallel, forming an intermediate space 17. The cover part 16 has an opening slot 30, the width t of which is less than the diameter s of the shoulder 26 of the cup 22 but greater than the diameter u of the cup 22 in the area of the base part 20. When the outer pack 10 is closed, the opening slot 20 up to the area of the cup 22 is connected with a tear-off strip 32 arranged integrally in the cover part 16 with the tear tab 34 and releasable from the cover part 16 by way of a weakening line or linear perforations 36.

The blister pack 12 is arranged in the outer pack 10 so that the shoulder 26 of the base part 20 protrudes sideways in the edge area of the opening slot 30 into the intermediate space 17 between the base part 14 and cover part 16, where the cup 22 protrudes outward from the plane of the cover part 16. In the base part 14 of the outer pack 10 is provided a removal opening 38, when viewed from above lying within the opening slot 30 and covered by the tear-off strip 32.

To remove the tablet 18 the tear-off strip 32 is held at the tear tab 34 and separated from the cover part 16 by an opening movement in arrow direction A,

creating the opening slot 30. The tear tab 34 arranged in the area of the cup 22 in the example shown can evidently also be provided on the side of the tear-off strip further away from the cup 22, where in this case the opening movement takes place towards the cup 22. The cup 22 protruding from the cover part 16 can now -
5 for example by a movement with the thumbs - be pushed along the opening slot in arrow direction B until the cup 22 is above the removal opening 38 in the base part 14 of the outer pack 10. In this position, the removal opening 38 - separated only by the cover film 22 - lies free opposite the tablet 18 in the cup 22. In this open position the tablet 18 can be pushed by finger pressure on the cup 22 in
10 arrow direction C through the cover film 24 and ejected through the removal opening 38. The removal opening 38 can also be covered by a push-through opening seal. This additional seal is for example bordered by a weakening line e.g. a perforation line, and is separated at the same time as the cover film 24 is pushed through.

15 The movement described above of the cup 22 within the opening slot 30 takes place against the return force of a spring strip 28 which deforms into a resiliently tensioned loop 40 according to Fig. 4 so that the cup 22 after release returns automatically to the starting position. In the area of the cup 22 on both sides of the
20 opening slot 30, open even when the outer pack 10 is closed, projections 42 protrude inwards from the cover part 16. These projections 42 inhibit the free movement of the cup 22 in the direction of removal opening 38 after the tear-off strip 32 has been pulled away, i.e. movement of the cup 22 into the removal position requires first a certain force to displace the projections 42 protruding into
25 the opening slot 32.

The essentially strip-like cut out for the outer pack 10 shown in Fig. 5 shows the weakened and therefore easily separable connection between the tear-off strip 32 with tear tab 34 as a perforation line 36 in the cover part 16. The blister pack 12
30 with spring strips 28 already lies on the base part. The outer pack is closed by folding the cover part 16 in arrow direction D about a fault line d until the cover part 16 lies on the base part 14 or blister pack 12. With this step there is at least partial adhesion of the edge part 42 of the cover part 16 with the edge parts 46 of the base part 14 to form the intermediate space 17 serving as a guide for the
35 shoulder 26 of the cover 22.

Figs. 6 and 7 show another possibility for generating a return force for the cover 22 in the opening slot 30. The spring strip 28 is here fitted with notches 48

- arranged alternately on both sides so that the spring strip 28 can be extended in the strip direction forming a spring tape 50 generating a return force. In this variant the spring strip 28 is attached to the end of the outer pack 10 lying closest to the head 31 of the opening slot 30. The spring strips 28 with notches 48 can be
- 5 made directly from the material of the base part 20 and/or the cover film 24 of the blister pack 12. It is however also possible to produce the spring strips 28 separately and connect these to the blister pack 12. Instead of a spring strip 28 evidently another spring material for example a rubber band can also be provided.
- 10 An outer pack 60 shown in Fig. 8 for blister pack 52 - in the example a two portion pack for two tablets 18a, b - is essentially made from outer packs 10 according to Fig. 1 arranged mirror symmetrically to each other. The same parts therefore have the same reference numbers, where the double structure is indicated by the suffix a or b. The base parts 14a, b are connected together as one piece and with the
- 15 cover parts 16a, b in each case form a loop. In the closed position the two outer packs 10a, b lie either side of a mirror symmetry plane S. The two part outer packs 10a, b can be opened in the same way and the tablets 18a, b removed in the same way as in the outer pack 10 shown in Figs. 1 to 5.
- 20 Fig. 9 shows a strip-like packing 70 with six individual packs according to Fig. 1 arranged next to each other. These can be separated from each other by linear perforations 72. The individual outer packs 10 can however also be opened without needing to be separated from the packing strip 70. Such a strip arrangement is also suitable for the outer pack 60 with a two-portion blister pack
- 25 62 according to Fig. 8.

A further advantage of the packing according to the invention is that the printable surfaces for the application of consumer information can be enlarged considerably.

CLAIMS

1. Child-safe packing for tablets, capsules and similar pharmaceutical products with a blister pack (12) with at least one cup (22) to hold the tablets (18) sealed by means of a push-through cover film (24),
5 characterised in that
the blister pack (12) is arranged in an outer pack (10) between a base part (14) and a cover part (16), where the cover film (24) of the blister pack (12) faces towards the base part (14) and the base part (14) has a removal opening (38) optionally covered by a push-through opening seal, and in
10 that the cup (22) of the blister pack (12) is movable and guided in an opening slot (30) in the cover part (16) and can be brought over the removal opening (38) in the base part (14) to push through the cover film (24) and remove the tablets (18).
15
2. Packing according to claim 1, characterised in that connected to the cover part (16) is a tear-off strip (32) at least partly covering the opening slot (30) and separable by way of a weakening line, preferably a perforation line (36).
20
3. Packing according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that projections (42) protrude inwards from the edge of the opening slot (30), inhibiting the free movement of the cup (22).
- 25 4. Packing according to any of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the blister pack (12) is connected to a spring element (28) counteracting the sliding movement.
- 30 5. Packing according to claim 4, characterised in that the spring element (28) is part of the blister pack (12).
6. Packing according to any of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the outer pack (10) consists of a single cut-out.
- 35 7. Double packing, characterised in that it consists of two part packings according to any of claims of 1 to 6 arranged mirror symmetrically to each other.

8. Multi-portion pack of at least two packings according to any of claims 1 to 7, characterised in that the individual packings are arranged next to each other into a strip pack (70) and are preferably separable from the strip pack (70) along a weakening line, in particular a perforation line (72).
- 5

(12) NACH DEM VERTRAG ÜBER DIE INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT AUF DEM GEBIET DES
PATENTWESENS (PCT) VERÖFFENTLICHTE INTERNATIONALE ANMELDUNG

(19) Weltorganisation für geistiges Eigentum
Internationales Büro



(43) Internationales Veröffentlichungsdatum
14. Dezember 2000 (14.12.2000)

PCT

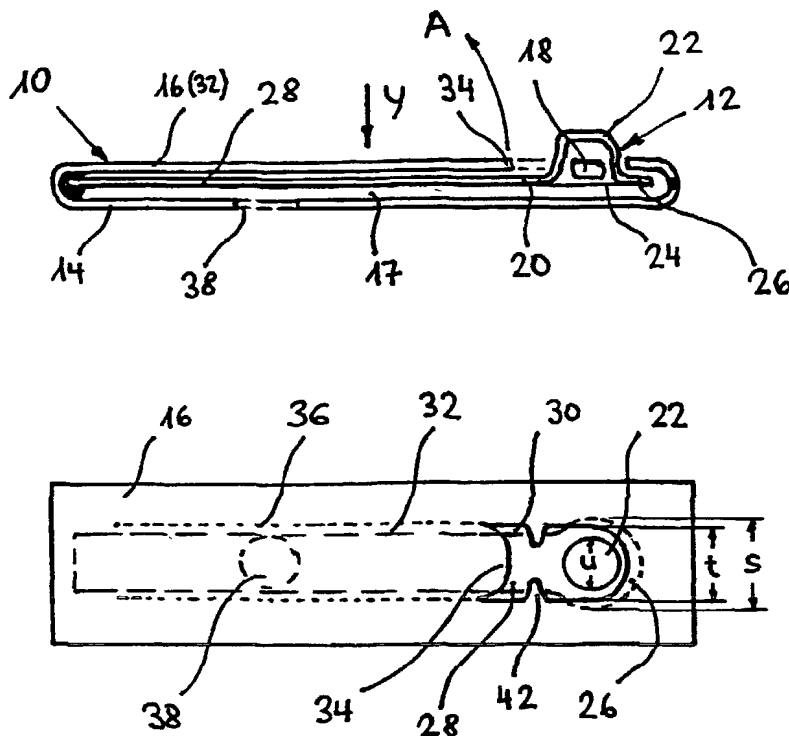
(10) Internationale Veröffentlichungsnummer
WO 00/75044 A1

- (51) Internationale Patentklassifikation⁷: B65D 83/04, (71) Anmelder (für alle Bestimmungsstaaten mit Ausnahme von US): ALUSUISSE TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT AG [CH/CH]; Bad. Bahnhofstr. 16, CH-8212 Neuhausen am Rheinfall (CH).
75/52
- (21) Internationales Aktenzeichen: PCT/EP00/04330
- (22) Internationales Anmeldedatum: 13. Mai 2000 (13.05.2000) (72) Erfinder; und (75) Erfinder/Anmelder (nur für US): KANCSAR, Peter [CH/CH]; Schaffhauserstr. 81, CH-8057 Zürich (CH). ZELIWEGGER, Laurenz [CH/CH]; Ackerstr. 53, CH-8005 Zürich (CH). KROHN, Michael [DE/CH]; Schreinerstr. 50, CH-8004 Zürich (CH). SCHMAUDER, Claudia [CH/CH]; Hardturmstr. 66, CH-8005 Zürich (CH). MARTI, Susanne [CH/CH]; Schreinerstr. 50, CH-8004 Zürich (CH).
- (25) Einreichungssprache: Deutsch
- (26) Veröffentlichungssprache: Deutsch
- (30) Angaben zur Priorität: 99810480.6 2. Juni 1999 (02.06.1999) EP

[Fortsetzung auf der nächsten Seite]

(54) Title: CHILD-RESISTANT PACKAGING FOR TABLETS

(54) Bezeichnung: KINDERSICHERE VERPACKUNG FÜR TABLETTEN



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a child-resistant yet senior-friendly packaging for tablets, capsules or similar pharmaceutical products. The inventive packaging is a blister pack (12) with at least one cup (22) that receives tablets (18) in an external package, arranged between a base part (14) and a cover part (16), and that is closed by a cover film (24) that can be pressed through. Said cover film (24) is directed towards the base part (14) and said base part (14) comprises a opening (38) through which the product can be withdrawn. The cup (22) of the blister pack (12) is displaceably guided in a slot (30) in the cover part (16) and can be brought in alignment with the opening (38) in the base part (14) so that the cover film (24) can be pressed through and the tablet (18) can be withdrawn. A tear tab (32) of the blister pack (12) is detachably linked with the cover part (16) via a perforated line (36) and covers the slot (30) at least partially.

[Fortsetzung auf der nächsten Seite]

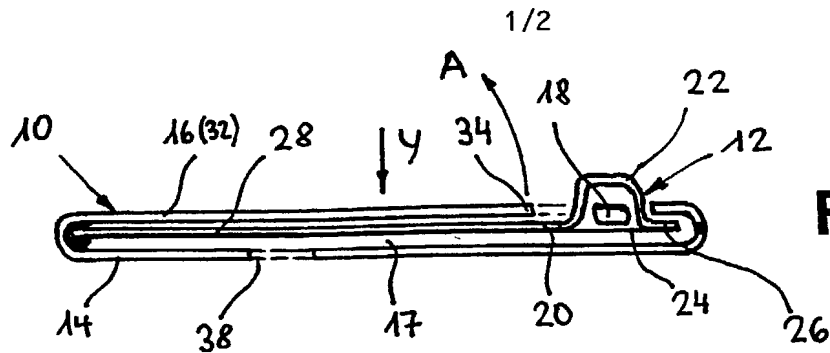


Fig.1

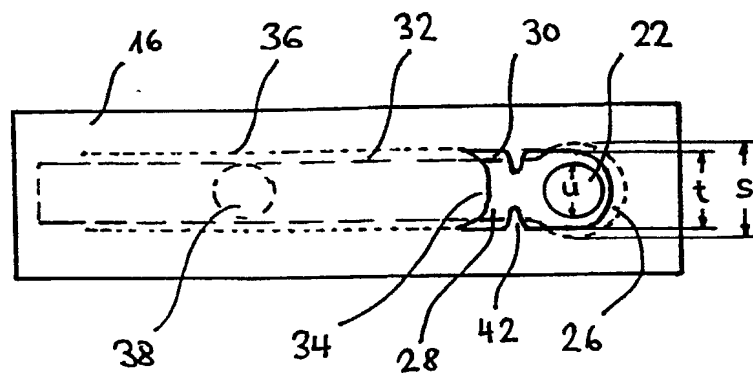


Fig.2

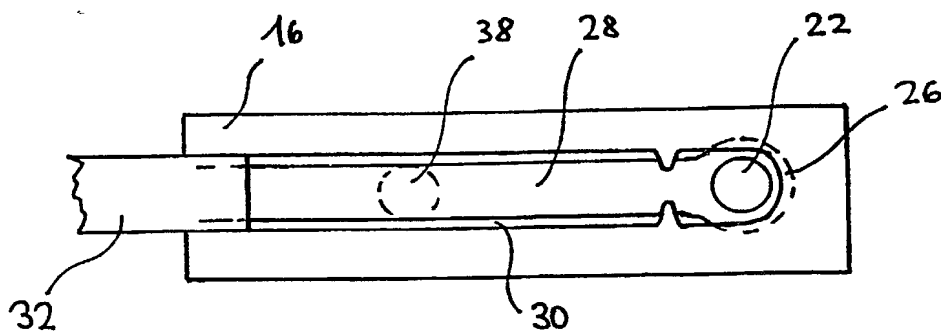


Fig.3

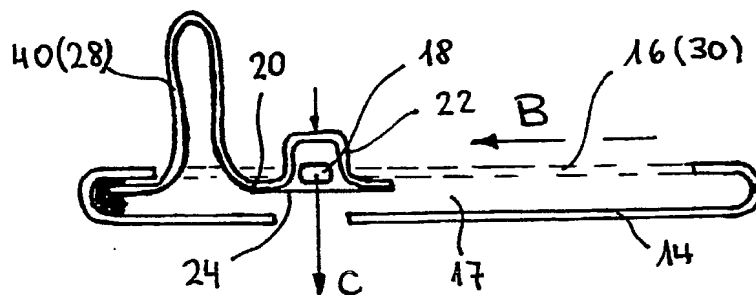
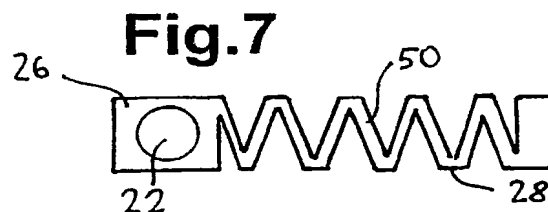
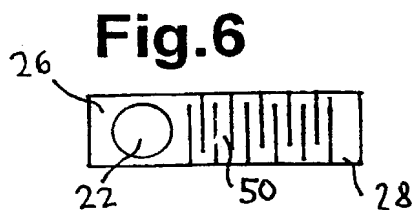


Fig.4



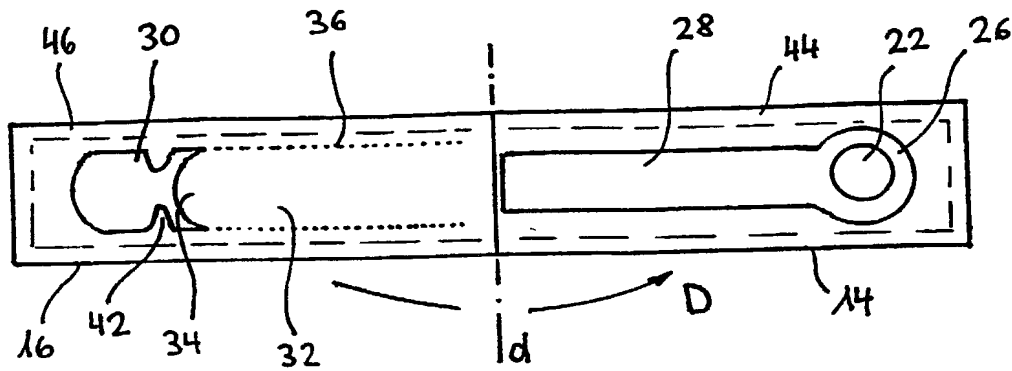


Fig. 5

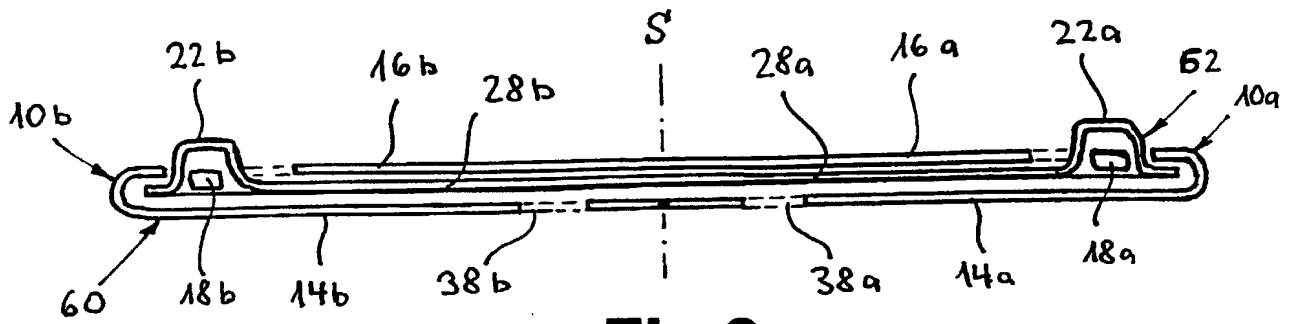


Fig. 8

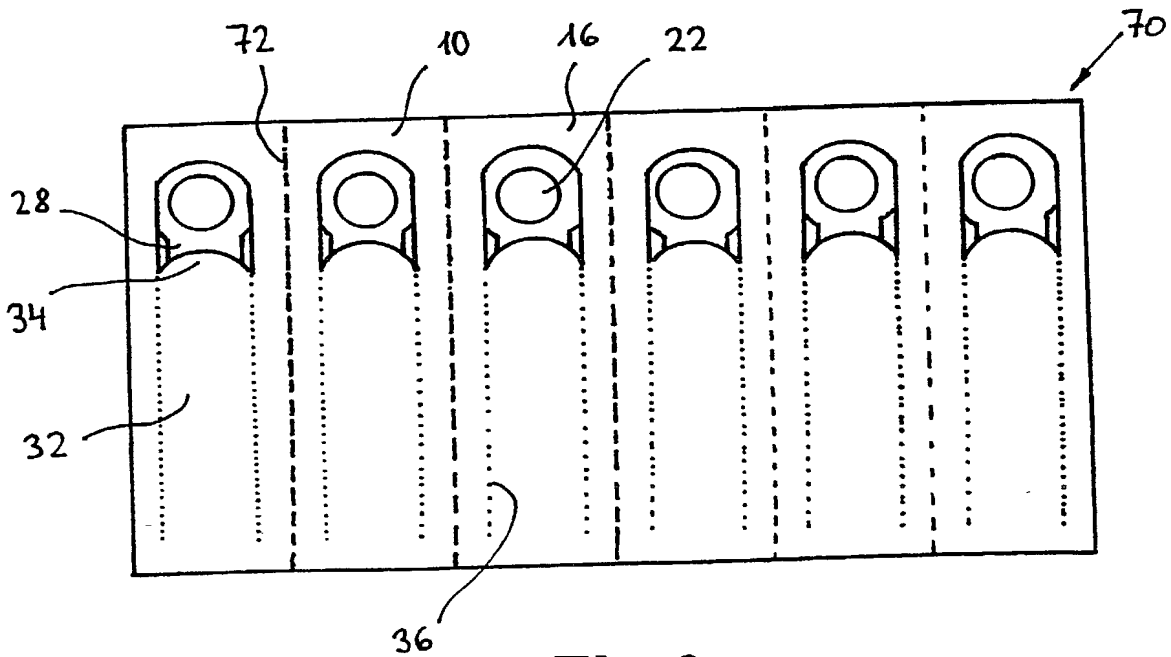


Fig. 9

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR
DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 CFR 1.63)**

☐ Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing OR ☒ Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number ATM-2241

First Named Inventor KANCSAR

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number 09 / 926,580

Filing Date November 21, 2001

Art Unit

Examiner Name

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

CHILD-RESISTANT PACKAGING FOR TABLETS

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto

OR

☒ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)

November 21, 2001

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number 09/926,580 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
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PCT/EP00/04330	PCT	5/13/2000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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[Page 1 of 2]

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Application Number	09/926,580
Filing Date	November 21, 2001
First Named Inventor	KANCSAR
Title	CHILD-RESISTANT ...
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	ATM-2241

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Country United States of America

Telephone 202 659-2000 Fax 202 659-2015

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☒ Applicant/Inventor. (Joint)☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).**SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record**

Name Peter Kancsar

Signature *P. Kancsar*


Date

May 7, 2002

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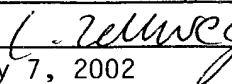
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Address	Suite 1401				
City	Washington	State	D.C.	Zip	20006
Country	United States of America				
Telephone	202 659-2000	Fax	202 659-2015		

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Name	Laurenz Zellweger
Signature	
Date	May 7, 2002

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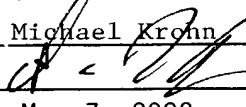
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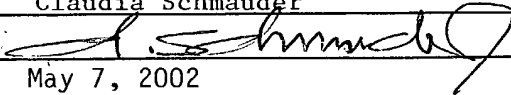
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Firm or Individual Name	Fisher Christen & Sabol				
Address	1725 K Street, N.W.				
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Country	United States of America				
Telephone	202 659-2000	Fax	202 659-2015		

I am the:

☒ Applicant/Inventor. (Joint)

☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).
SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name	Claudia Schmauder
Signature	
Date	May 7, 2002

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

☒ *Total of 5 forms are submitted.

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PTO/SB/81 (02-01)

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**POWER OF ATTORNEY OR
AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT**

Application Number	09/926,580
Filing Date	November 21, 2001
First Named Inventor	KANCSAR
Title	CHILD-RESISTANT ...
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	ATM-2241

I hereby appoint:

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☒ Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number
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Kara M. Armstrong	38,234

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Country	United States of America				
Telephone	202 659-2000	Fax	202 659-2015		

I am the:

☒ Applicant/Inventor. (Joint)
☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
 Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).
SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name	Susanne Marti
Signature	<i>S. Marti</i>
Date	May 7, 2002

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DECLARATION**ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)**
Supplemental Sheet
Page 1 of 1**Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:**☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle [if any])

Family Name or Surname

MichaelKrohnInventor's
SignatureDate May 7, 2002Residence: City ZurichState CHXCountry SwitzerlandCitizenship GermanMailing Address Limmattalstr. 38

Mailing Address

City Zurich

State

ZIP CH-8049Country Switzerland**Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:**☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle [if any])

Family Name or Surname

ClaudiaSchmauderInventor's
SignatureDate May 7, 2002Residence: City ZurichState CHXCountry SwitzerlandCitizenship SwissMailing Address Hardturmstr. 66

Mailing Address

City Zurich

State

ZIP CH-8005Country Switzerland**Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:**☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle [if any])

Family Name or Surname

SusanneMartiInventor's
SignatureDate May 7, 2002Residence: City ZurichState CHXCountry SwitzerlandCitizenship SwissMailing Address Limmattalstr. 38

Mailing Address

City Zurich

State

ZIP CH-8049Country Switzerland

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR : ☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventorGiven Name
(first and middle (if any)) PeterFamily Name
or Surname KancsarInventor's
Signature P. KancsarDate May 7, 2002Residence: City ZurichState CHXSwitzerland
CountrySwiss
CitizenshipMailing Address Schaffhauserstr. 81Zurich
City

State

CH-8057
ZIPSwitzerland
CountryNAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: ☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventorGiven Name
(first and middle (if any)) LaurenzFamily Name
or Surname ZellwegerInventor's
Signature L. ZellwegerDate May 7, 2002Residence: City ZurichState CHXSwitzerland
CountrySwiss
CitizenshipMailing Address Manessestr. 92Zurich
City

State

CH-8045
ZIPSwitzerland
Country☒ Additional inventors are being named on the 1 supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.